

THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An image data distribution system wherein an image server has information on destination groups formed of members selected from among a plurality of digital multifunction apparatus which include a printing function to print image data from the image sever, the plurality of digital multifunction apparatus being connected to the image server via network, and the information being memorized on a storage, and wherein the image data will be sent out to the respective members of the destination group specified by the destination information, said system comprising:

input manipulation means, provided in each digital multifunction apparatus, which can request the image server to send back all the destination groups, and specify a specific group from among all the destination groups sent back from the image server, and send to the image server at least the specified group together with a group registration request to register the digital multifunction apparatus with the specified group after specifying the group; and

distribution managing means, provided on the side of the image server, which sends to the digital multifunction apparatus all the destination groups according to the request sent from the digital multifunction apparatus to send all the destination groups, and after a destination group is specified by the digital multifunction apparatus, registers the digital multifunction apparatus with the specified destination group, wherein

the digital multifunction apparatus communicates with the image server via the network.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The image data distribution system as defined in claim 1, wherein said digital multifunction apparatus is provided with image input means for reading a document and sends image data from said image input means to the image server.

4. (Previously Presented) The image data distribution system as defined in claim 1, wherein said digital multifunction apparatus is provided with storage means for storing image data and sends image data from said storage means to the image server.

5. (Previously Presented) The image data distribution system as defined in claim 1, wherein said facsimile apparatus includes transmit-receive means and sends image data from said transmit-receive means to the image server.

Claims 6-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) An image data distribution method wherein an image server has information on destination groups formed of members selected from among a plurality of digital multifunction apparatus which include a printing function to print image data from the image sever, the plurality of digital multifunction apparatus being connected to the image server via network, and the information being memorized on a storage, and wherein the image data will

be sent out to the respective members of the destination group specified by the destination information, said method comprising:

requesting from a digital multifunction apparatus for the image server to send back all the destination groups;

sending all the destination groups from said image server to said digital multifunction apparatus in response to the request from the digital multifunction apparatus for sending all the destination groups;

sending from an input manipulation means provided in the digital multifunction apparatus a request for registration of the digital multifunction apparatus with a destination group, and at least a specified destination group specified by the digital multifunction apparatus; and

registering said digital multifunction apparatus with the specified destination group according to the group registration request and the specified destination group sent from said digital multifunction apparatus, wherein

the digital multifunction apparatus communicates with the image server via the network.